

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-13

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANJUL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BANGUI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BISSAU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KIGALI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LOME PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LILONGWE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MBABANE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MASERU PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

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FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY FOR HODDING CARTER FROM BROWN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SPON, SF, UG

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE FOR DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ON
UGANDA AND SOUTH AFRICA

REF: A) STATE 37514; B) STATE 38176

1. FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE, WHICH WAS PREPARED IN
CONSULTATION WITH WHITE HOUSE, SUPERSEDES GUIDANCE
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CONTAINED IN REFTELS:

QUESTION: IN HIS PRESS CONFERENCE YESTERDAY, AMBASSADOR
YOUNG REFERRED TO THE "ASSASSINATION" OF THE ANGLICAN
ARCHBISHOP OF UGANDA WHO WAS ACCUSED OF PLOTTING AGAINST
AMIN. DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE EVIDENCE THAT
THIS WAS AN ASSASSINATION?

ANSWER: WE ARE SHOCKED BY THE TRAGIC DEATHS IN UGANDA
OF THE ANGLICAN ARCHBISHOP AND TWO OTHERS. ALTHOUGH
WE HAVE NO ADDITIONAL FACTS BEYOND THE PRESS REPORTS,
WE FIND THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THESE DEATHS, AS REPORTED
BY THE MEDIA, TO BE DISTURBING AND OPEN TO SERIOUS
QUESTION, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE PAST VIOLATIONS
OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA. OUR CONCERN OVER THESE
VIOLATIONS IN PART DICTATED THE DECISION TO CLOSE OUR

EMBASSY IN KAMPALA IN 1973.

QUESTION: ARE YOU SAYING THAT AMBASSADOR YOUNG WAS WRONG IN CALLING IT AN ASSASSINATION, OR ARE YOU CONTRADICTING HIM?

ANSWER: CERTAINLY NOT, THAT WAS NOT ONLY HIS CHARACTERIZATION, BUT ONE USED ALSO BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY, THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS, AND OTHERS IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. I'M JUST REPEATING THAT WE HAVE NO FURTHER FACTS ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DEATHS.

QUESTION: DOES THE U.S. PLAN TO BRING UP THE UGANDA CASE AT THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC)?

ANSWER: THE GENERAL QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA IS ALREADY BEFORE THE HRC AS A RESULT OF A RESOLUTION PUT FORWARD BY AN HRC SUB-COMMISSION. WE WILL WANT TO UNCLASSIFIED

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ASSEMBLE ALL THE FACTS WE CAN GET AND CONSULT WITH OTHERS BEFORE DECIDING HOW THIS NEW ISSUE CAN BEST BE DEALT WITH. I CAN STATE, HOWEVER, THAT THE U.S. WOULD ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH A CALL FOR AN INTERNATIONAL INQUIRY INTO THESE DEATHS.

QUESTION: WHAT ABOUT AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S STATEMENT ABOUT THE 18TH PRISONER JUMPING OUT OF A PRISON WINDOW IN SOUTH AFRICA?

ANSWER: WE HAVE NO SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS CASE AND, IN THE ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC FACTS, WHICH WE ARE SEEKING, I DO NOT WANT TO CHARACTERIZE IT. HOWEVER, THERE IS INCREASING CONCERN OVER THE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS IN SOUTH AFRICA.
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Disposition Reason:
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